

WOMAN DIES IN FIRE IN NORFOLK

Body is Found in Ruins of
Flame-Swept Residence

MYSTERIOUS FACTS

Husband Shoots Self, Appearing
Crazed at Wife's Death—Bloody
Club Lying Near

Norfolk, Va., July 21—Mrs. Estelle Osborne Keister, wife of E. Z. Keister, found dead at 4 o'clock yesterday morning in the ruins of her husband's home at 3817 Gosnold avenue.

Four hours later her husband fired a bullet into his brain at the home of his brother, D. E. Keister, 127 Berkeley avenue. He is still alive, but his physicians say he will die.

The police discovered near the woman's body a piece of firewood, on the end of which was a clot of what is supposed to be blood and a quantity of hair. A piece of wearing apparel also was found near by.

The body was near the stairway which leads from the attic. Nearby were 23 pieces of firewood and a strip of carpet about six feet long. The carpet was saturated with kerosene. A few feet away was an empty kerosene lamp.

The theory is that the house was fired in two places. The fact that the front and rear of the building on the second floor were practically unscathed by the flames while the attic was demolished lead to this belief. Fire Chief McLaughlin said the fire was not due to defective wiring.

According to the story as related to neighbors by Mr. Keister the fire was discovered by Mrs. Keister shortly before 4 o'clock. It originated in the basement. She roused her husband and asked that he collect the silver.

Neighbors state that Mr. Keister told them he instructed his wife to leave everything to him and to take refuge in the home of Mrs. R. C. Taylor, 4107 Gosnold avenue. The husband said he thought his wife was safely away. He went to the upper floor to secure valuables and when he started to return found that his escape was cut off. He threw a trunk and some silverware from an upper window and escaped by the same exit.

When Mr. Keister reached the ground, he inquired for his wife and asked if she was not at Mrs. Taylor's. Mrs. Taylor said she had not seen her.

"She must have gone to some other neighbor," Mr. Keister said to have stated.

Mr. Keister was clad only in pajamas and an undershirt, and was wet to the skin. He was nearly distracted, neighbors say.

"I know that Estelle is safe," he said. "I know that she has gone to the home of some of the neighbors." Search of neighboring houses failed to locate the missing woman. The firemen had not seen her nor had any of the neighbors. The building was then searched and the charred remains of Mrs. Keister were found face down on the floor of the attic.

No explanation for her going to the attic could be given, unless she had gone there to secure papers said to be contained in a metal trunk. The key to the trunk was found in the lock, but its contents were practically destroyed by the flames.

The husband was taken to the home of W. J. Hudgins, 635 Georgia avenue. He was cold and shaking. A mustard bath was given him and he was dressed in some of Mr. Hudgins' clothing.

Shortly after 7 o'clock D. E. Keister came to the Hudgins' home in an automobile. He took his brother with him to his home in Berkeley. According to D. E. Keister, his brother was nearly crazy. He could not understand what had led his wife to return to the burning house. The brothers arrived in Berkeley shortly after 8 o'clock, and S. M. Birdsong, a friend of the family was called in.

The brother went downstairs to send telegrams and the grief-crazed

husband went to the bathroom. Shortly after a shot rang out. Mr. Birdsong rushed to the bathroom and Keister on the floor with a bullet through his brain. How he secured the revolver has not been learned. The bed in the room where Mr. and Mrs. Keister slept had been occupied. The room was not touched by the fire. Firemen state that all doors to the room were locked and had to be forced to gain an entrance. The couple were the only occupants of the house. Neighbors say they seemed devoted. They had lived in the section about two months and were little known by the neighbors. Mrs. Keister was highly accomplished and prominent in musical circles. She was about 41 years old and is survived by her father, Payette W. Osborne, and the following brothers and sisters: Dr. Archibald Osborne, of Perryville, Va.; Mrs. Deatur Osborne, of Clarke county, Virginia; Mrs. Mae Mobley, Garland Osborne and Miss Nellie Osborne, of Washington and William Osborne, of Loudoun county Virginia.

STUBBORN FIRE TODAY

Conflagration in Building Occupied
by The Alexandria Coffee
Company

Fire broke out a few minutes before 10 o'clock this morning in the building at 309 Prince street occupied by the Alexandria Coffee Company, and in a short while the entire third floor, where the flames had been discovered, was wrapped in flames, and smoke was issuing from the windows in large volumes.

The fire was discovered by an employee of the firm who had started up the elevator used to transport the coffee and peanuts, articles in which the concern deals, from one floor to the other. Just before reaching the third floor he sighted the flames and started the elevator down to the ground floor again, where he hurriedly notified the others there, and a bystander, who had started to walk into the building on business, turned in the alarm a few doors west at the Relief truck house. Immediately the fire bells began to clang and the fire-fighting apparatus was soon on the scene.

After about twenty minutes' work by the fire department the fire was gotten under control and long before eleven o'clock the conflagration was practically subdued. The fire is supposed to have been caused by an defective electric wiring, which caused a wire to sputter and ignite inflammable material.

It is not known how the started, but it is suspected that a blaze broke out in piles of cardboard and other inflammable material stored on the top floor, and in this way soon ignited the room.

Flames gutted the entire third story and the water coming through the ceiling while the hoses were playing inside the windows of the third story poured down into the second and first floors, irreparably damaging a huge stock consisting of thousands of pounds of coffee and peanuts.

The total loss incurred will be \$5,000 or more. Most of the damage will consist of the ruining of the stock by water and smoke. On the third floor to which the fire ladders kept the flames confined, only a large stock of peanuts was ruined. The building and contents were insured.

SOLDIERS WILL PLAY BALL

Alexandrians Send Home For Outfit
for Pastime While in
Texas

R. E. Knight and Son have received an order from Company G (Alexandria Light Infantry) now at Brownsville, Texas, for balls, bats, mitts, etc., with which the boys purpose to divert themselves during their camp life.

THE MOUNTAINS OF NORTH CAROLINA, Asheville and other resorts in "Land of the Sky" are delightful and beneficial for spending your vacation. Special excursion July 28th. \$10.00 round trip. Leave Alexandria 7:17 p. m. Through sleeping cars. Southern Railway.

UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

Commissioners of Both
Countries Will Discuss
Issues

TO MEET AT NIAGARA

General Belief That This Government
Will Accept Suggestions of Southern Republic

Mexico City, July 21—Anticipating acceptance by the United States of its suggestion for discussion of the border question by a commission, it was informally indicated here today that the three commissioners who will represent Mexico will be Roberto Pesqueit, formerly the first chief representative in Washington; Luis Carbera, minister of finance, and Alberto Pani, director of railways.

Publication of the note, which was sent to the United States on July 11, in newspapers here aroused favorable comment.

Three lines of discussion were suggested—a co-operative plan of hunting down banditry by pursuit of troop of both nations on either side of the border; plans for withdrawal of American forces from Mexico, and investigation of the instigators of raids on American territory.

DOUBLE MURDERS

Major Kills Wife and Her Escort in
an Automobile

Alpine, Tex., July 21—Maj. M. C. Butler, of the Sixth United States Cavalry, and Mrs. H. J. Spinnell, with whom he was out riding in an automobile, were shot and killed yesterday afternoon by H. J. Spinnell, husband of the woman.

Immediately after the shooting Spinnell went to the jail and surrendered. Mrs. Spinnell was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Holland, well known residents of Alpine. Spinnell is the proprietor of the Holland Hotel here.

Nashville, Tenn., July 21—Mrs. W. C. Butler, wife of Maj. Butler, who before her marriage was Miss Margaret Howell, daughter of the late W. B. Howell, sr., one of Nashville's leading lawyers, only a short time ago left this city to join her husband on the border. They were married eleven years ago and there is one child.

Maj. Matthew C. Butler, Jr., of the Sixth United States Cavalry, was a son of Senator Matthew Galbraith Butler, of South Carolina, who served in the Senate from 1877 to 1895, practiced law in Washington and died in Columbia, S. C., on April 14, 1909. Senator Butler served as a major general of United States volunteers in the war with Spain.

Buenos Aires, July 21—A Sensational double murder, involving persons figuring in exclusive Argentine and Chile society circles is reported in dispatches from Santiago, Chile. Deputy Riesco, son of a former President of Chile, and himself a member of the Chilean national congress, entered the Hotel Oddo and found Miss Blanca Figueroa, beautiful daughter of the Chilean Minister to Argentina, in the company of a well dressed Argentinean, whose identity has not been established. He shot Miss Figueroa through the heart and killed the Argentinean with two bullets through the brain.

Jealousy is supposed to have been the motive for the crime although Riesco refused to answer questions put by the police. It is understood that the Chilean was infatuated with Miss Figueroa, a favorite in the exclusive circles at Santiago, and followed her to the hotel when he learned she was with an Argentinean she is reported to have met at a diplomatic function at Buenos Aires.

WILL THE PERSON who found curved bone-handled umbrella on Washington-Alexandria electric car about one o'clock on Wednesday, return to T. B. Cochran, 722 King street, and receive reward? The owner's name and address, 1343 L Street, Washington, D. C., on handle and inside of umbrella.

LOCAL BREVITIES

Alexandria Lodge of Elks will give a crab feast tonight at 8 o'clock.

There will be a crab pick at the Columbia Steam Fire Engine House tonight at eight o'clock.

Rev. Joakim Alexopoulos, pastor of the Greek Catholic Church, Washington, has been authorized to celebrate rites of matrimony in this city.

Jerome Kaufmann, recently elected by common council to fill a vacancy in the lower board caused by the death of the late R. D. Brumback, has qualified by Mayor Fisher to sit with the city fathers.

Rev. E. W. Mellichampe, rector of historic old Pohick Church, near Mount Vernon has announced that he will hold a half-hour service beginning at 6 p. m. every evening during the remainder of the summer.

The Christ P. E. Church section of the Gypsy Smith choir to participate in the evangelistic services that will be held in this city in September will hold a meeting in parish hall of that church at 7:30 o'clock tonight to rehearse.

BLOW UP SECOND CAR

Strike Sympathizers Blamed for New
Violence Near Wilkes-Barre

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., July 21—Another trolley car of the local traction company was blown up by dynamite yesterday making the second attempt in two days to kill strike breaking crews.

The first car over the route ran into dynamite that had been planted on a switch on the borough of Wyoming. The dynamite exploded with terrific force. Every window of the car was broken. The seats were torn from fastenings and scattered about. The mechanism was wrecked.

Marvin Renshaw, the motorman, was hurled against the front of the vestibule and cut by glass. The conductor escaped with slight injuries. The car carried one passenger. He was hurled from his seat, but was not badly hurt. The strikers have been out more than nine months, and the boycott of the cars run by strike-breakers has been most absolute.

WOMAN DISCHARGES PISTOL

Excitement on South Lee Street
This Afternoon

Reports of a shooting affair in the southeastern section of the city reached the Gazette office this afternoon, and upon investigation it was ascertained that no one had been hurt and that the shooting was the result of a family quarrel between two women living on south Lee street, between Gibson and Franklin.

A woman known as Mrs. Sisson had engaged in a quarrel with her daughter-in-law, who lived with her at her south Lee street residence, and hot words ensued and threats were made, whereupon Mrs. Sisson suddenly procured a pistol and fired several times, at an open window, in an effort to frighten the younger woman.

Report of the affair reached the police station during the annual inspection of the force, and two officers were sent to the scene of the affray to summon the women to police court in the morning.

Just arrived a fresh supply of Crabs Clams, and Oysters. Call or Telephone and orders will be given prompt attention. Ramell Cafe S. Royal Street.

JUSTICE PAYNE'S COURT

Justice A. J. Payne, of Fairfax county, disposed of the following case: B. Huntington, charged with disorderly conduct toward his wife, was fined \$5 and in addition made to pay \$2.90 costs.

Martha Barnes, charged with using abusive language towards Mary Jones, was fined \$1. and 40 cents in additional as costs.

NOTICE

Robert F. Knox, Jr., has qualified as the administrator of the estate of Lucy Daingerfield Knox, deceased.

DEVILED & HARD SHELL CRABS AT JACOB FRILL'S FOOT KING ST.

ALLIES USING NUTCRACKER

French Deliver Blow Which
Give Them A Perfect
Link

TAKE 2,900 TEUTONS

Terrific Attacks Made by French on
Both Sides of Somme—English
Gain 1,000 Yards

London, July 21—General Haig's forces continued their victorious push against the German lines today, driving out of the Foreaux wood north of Bazentin and Longueval, a German detachment which had gained an entry there after a counter attack.

London, July 21—The German crown prince invented the nut cracker style of attack, where encircling arms strove to squeeze out resistance about a given section, but it has remained for the Franco-British offensive to put this style of offensive to another use.

Briefly, the scheme is to advance a wedge—the fulcrum of the nut cracker—and then push outward two arms from this wedge.

The Germans squeezed an opened nut cracker together; the allies are opening a closed nut cracker.

Such a scheme is in operation today in the Peronne sector, the British swinging forward their arm of the nut cracker with terrific attacks in Longueval and Delville wood and the French pressing forward south of Peronne.

London, July 21—The French corps of General Foch yesterday cut a great gash in the German front south of the Somme on a front of seven miles. Last night their lines reached the river at one point, while in a late afternoon attack, delivered along a front of two and a half miles from Estrees to Vermandovillers, the important height which bears the name of the latter place was carried, together with the German first line trenches along the entire front of attack.

In a simultaneous attack north of the Somme the French pushed forward from their Herbecourt-Mamelon line to the very banks of the stream. Still further to the northward, on the front held by British, General Haig struck a sturdy blow north of the Bazentin-Longueval front.

The English troops are driving through the German lines for more than half a mile.

The gains yesterday are equalled only by those of the first days of the Picardy battle. The dash of the French, especially, and the terrific power of the artillery is indicated by the fact that in the course of only a few hours 2,900 Germans were taken prisoners. The losses inflicted according to documents discovered by the advancing troops, must be tremendous. Several battalions have been practically wiped out, while for the 20 days' offensive the German casualties in killed and wounded alone are estimated at more than 150,000. Of prisoners the French and British hold more than 30,000.

On the British sectors especially violent fighting is being waged tonight in the blood-soaked Delville wood and among the ruins of Longueval. The British are steadily regaining the ground lost at these points, General Haig wires, while the German War Office lends official confirmation to his statement.

The French yesterday morning launched their first attacks simultaneously on both sides of the Somme. North of the river they drove forward on the Herbecourt-Mamelon front, while south of the stream they launched an extensive attack on a line stretching from Barleux to Soye court. The initial movements met with stern resistance by the Germans. So important did the German grand headquarters consider these operations that the official communication usually issued early in the morning, was held up for hours, until word of the results of the attack could be obtained. The Germans at first succeeded in holding their own, their statement indicates, but later the tide turned to be French and they made

LATE W. H. BALL

Body of Alexandrian Who Committed
Suicide Near Baltimore to be
Buried in Leesburg

William Harvey Ball, who committed suicide a few miles outside of Baltimore Wednesday afternoon, lived in this city up until several months ago, but had gone to Baltimore to seek employment. Formerly he had been employed as a clerk in the clothing store of B. Abramson on King street.

The body of the deceased was found hanging from a tree in the woods near Peck's run, outside of Baltimore, by three boys hunting through the woods. He was suspended by a noose made by knotting his necktie. Melancholia was attributed to be the cause of his rash act.

The body was identified at the morgue in Baltimore by Charles L. Ball, the brother of the man. Besides him, he is survived by his mother and two sisters. The deceased was thirty-three years old and a native of Loudoun county. Burial will be at Leesburg Va.

DEATH OF MARK L. PRICE

Old and Well-Known Resident Passes
Away at His Home
Last Night

Mark L. Price, 78 years old, died shortly after midnight last night in the Virginia Apartments, on Prince street, where he resided, following a short illness. The deceased was taken ill on last Saturday, and had been in a dying condition for the past several days. He was one of the oldest and best known residents of this city. For about thirty-five years he was employed on the Washington and Ohio Railroad as a conductor, serving in that capacity from 1867, two years after the Civil War, until about twelve years ago, when he retired.

The deceased fought in the Civil War as a member of the Alexandria Rifles, a company in the Seventeenth Virginia regiment, and was a member of R. E. Lee Camp of Confederate Veterans. He was also a member of Alexandria Washington Lodge of Masons.

Besides his widow, Mrs. Mary E. Price, two sons and a daughter survive him. Mark L. Price, jr., and C. Marion Price, and Mrs. Louise Smythe, wife of James Smythe. He was a brother of City Auditor E. Fleming Price and has a sister, Mrs. J. R. Zimmermann, residing in this city. He was a son of the late Ellis L. and Judith P. Price. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon at 5 o'clock from the residence of his daughter, Mrs. James S. Smythe, 632 north Washington street.

WOMAN TAKES PEARLS

Two Accomplish Cover Jeweler With
Pistol While Thief Make Get-
away

New York, July 20—Covered with revolvers in the hands of two well-dressed "customers," Rudolph Oblatt, a jeweler of Maiden Lane, watched a golden haired woman walk from his office with a pearl necklace valued at \$4,500. It was learned today.

The three "customers" came to Oblatt with what purported to be an introduction from an Asbury Park acquaintance, and asked to be shown some necklaces. The woman asked to see the most costly one and fled with it while her companions covered Oblatt.

CARD OF THANKS

I take this method of extending my thanks to the members of the Alexandria Fire Department and others for their prompt response and untiring work at the fire which occurred in the building occupied by the Alexandria Coffee Company this morning. I also greatly appreciate the kind words of sympathy expressed by the business community, as well as the numerous offers of assistance in various ways tendered me at this time.

Respectfully,
C. R. YATES

decided gains. Then, late in the afternoon, came the drive on a wide front. Here the entire first system of defense was carried.

AUTO LICENSES ARE HIGHER

Charge of Forty Cents For
Each Horse Power of
Machine

OVERLOOK NEW LAWS

Cost of Power Vehicles Are Determined by the Society of Automobile
Engineers

Richmond, July 21—Whether it be the high cost of living or the cost of high living, owners of automobiles can determine for themselves with the beginning of the new year. This year witnessed the largely increased cost of gasoline and the coming year will linger long in the memory of men who apply for automobile licenses as of January 1, the day on which the same are due and payable.

Last winter the automobile laws were materially changed, a fact which seems to have escaped the attention of nearly everybody in the state up to this time. Next year all owners of power machines—automobiles, locomobiles, motorcycles and all others—will pay on the basis of the horsepower of each machine.

This will be ascertained on the basis of the power of all such machines as determined by the Society of Automobile Engineers, which bases the power of machines on the size of the cylinders.

For many years past manufacturers have been advertising cars at a certain specified power. This has been found to be incorrect in many instances, the power often being far in excess of the standard of the society above referred to, the cost of operating being lower than it will be in future. In all cases hereafter the rate for every machine will be 40 cents for each horsepower as determined by the standard of the society of Engineers.

Revenue this year from automobile licenses will probably go as high as \$250,000, the money to go to the fund for the maintenance of roads that have been improved either by state aid or convict forces. There is reason to believe that, beginning next year, this will be increased to not less than \$275,000 to \$400,000, all due to the new regulation for operation of cars on the ascertained horsepower.

According to estimates made by Chief Clerk Hayes, of the office of the secretary of the commonwealth next year the machines will average more than \$10 each, possibly as much as \$12.50, and if the total shall reach \$435,000 would be raised, but the fact that motorcycles are quite numerous will serve to reduce this because they are often not more than ten horsepower. After all, the basis of \$10 for each machine would bring the total for road maintenance to \$350,000. Owners of trucks, used in hauling of freight and coal, generally run as high as fifty horsepower, and in such cases the sum exacted for these will be \$20 for each machine.

Added to this is the further stipulation that any person who shall operate a machine in this state after January 1 of next year without first obtaining a license therefor is liable to a fine of not less than \$10 nor more than \$20, each day to constitute a separate offense. So it will be cheaper to get the license the first day of the year instead of paying the fine for any one day, certainly for any two days.

For some time past the cost for operating of one of the cars which "can go everywhere except into society" has been \$5 for each year, but it is now discovered that this same car has an indicated horsepower of twenty-two, so that hereafter \$8.80 will be the fee. And if your car should happen to be one of the fancy, 100 horsepower affairs, regardless of cost, you will produce just \$40 for the privilege of being the owner of the speedy consumer of gasoline.

Just arrived a fresh supply of Crabs Clams, and Oysters. Call or Telephone and orders will be given prompt attention. Ramell Cafe S. Royal Street.